



CROSS OF GLORY

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND
LEARNING CENTER, WELS

FOR IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED,
THROUGH FAITH—AND THIS NOT FROM
YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD.
EPH 2:8-9

January 3rd, 2016

The Epiphany of our Lord



A Savior for All People

CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH & LEARNING CENTER

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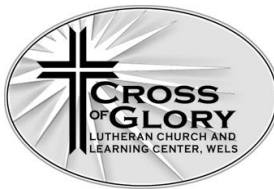
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Welcome! We are glad you are here with us today. Our service today follows an order of worship which places the spotlight on God's Word and its central message of peace through Jesus. You can follow the outline of the service in this worship folder. The hymn numbers refer to the red hymnal: Christian Worship (CW) or the blue hymnal: Christian Worship Supplement (CWS).

Restrooms: The women's and men's restrooms are located in the Gathering Room (lobby) of the church. There are additional restrooms located in the Fellowship Hall.

Cry Room: We do not mind a fussy child or an instructing parent. But for parents who would like a quiet place to be with their child, we have a cry room with a one-way window into the sanctuary. The entrance is located in the Gathering Room. The worship audio can be heard in this room.

Prayer Requests: If you have a special prayer you would like included in today's Prayer of the Church, please fill out the prayer request form on the small table in the Gathering Room.

Holy Communion: We offer classes (Basic Bible Christianity) for those desiring to take the sacrament. If you are a newcomer, please take these classes before communing or speak with our pastor.



ORDER OF SERVICE: WORD AND SACRAMENT

HYMN.....Angels from the Realms of Glory (CW #80)

STAND

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**



PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY (*KYRIE*)

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer— cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer— cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



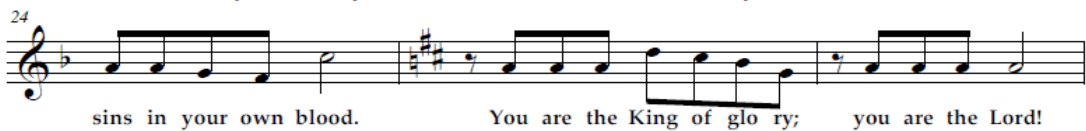
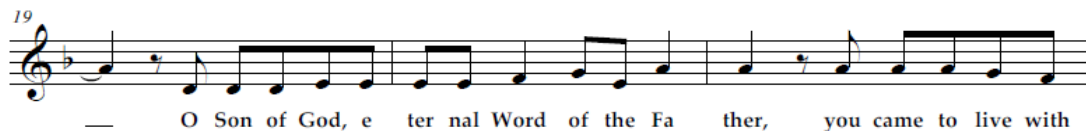
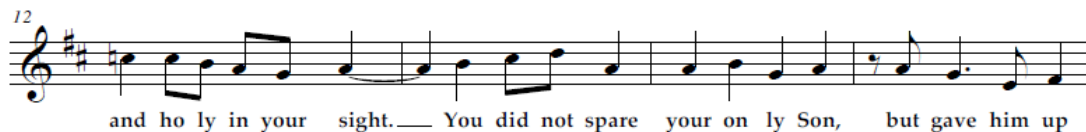
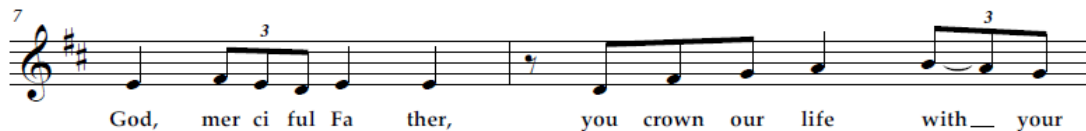
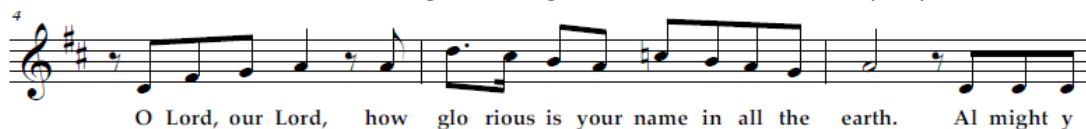
C: Lord, have mer— cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A— men.

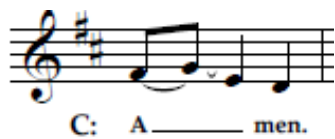
M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious. His name is worthy of praise!



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, by the leading of a star you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith, to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON.....1 Kings 10:1-9

When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relation to the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions.² Arriving at Jerusalem with a very great caravan-- with camels carrying spices, large quantities of gold, and precious stones-- she came to Solomon and talked with him about all that she had on her mind.³ Solomon answered all her questions; nothing was too hard for the king to explain to her.⁴ When the queen of Sheba saw all the wisdom of Solomon and the palace he had built,⁵ the food on his table, the seating of his officials, the attending servants in their robes, his cupbearers, and the burnt offerings he made at the temple of the LORD, she was overwhelmed.⁶ She said to the king, "The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true.⁷ But I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard.⁸ How happy your men must be! How happy your officials, who continually stand before you and hear your wisdom!"⁹ Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king, to maintain justice and righteousness."

The cantors introduce the refrain, then the congregation joins to sing the refrain.



All the ends of the earth_have seen_the pow-er of God;



All the ends of the earth_have seen the pow-er of God._

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Verse 1 (Cantors): *Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done wondrous deeds; his right arm has won the vict'ry for him, his holy arm.*

Refrain (Congregation)

Verse 2 (Cantors): *The Lord has made his salvation known, his justice revealed to all. Remembered his kindness and faithfulness to Israel.*

Refrain (Congregation)

Verse 3 (Cantors): *All of the ends of the earth have seen salvation by our God. Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth in song.*

Refrain (Congregation)

Verse 4 (Cantors): *Sing to the Lord with harp and song, with trumpet and with horn. Sing in your joy before the King, the King, our Lord.*

Refrain (Congregation)

SECOND LESSON.....Ephesians 3:2-12

Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you,³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly.⁴ In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,⁵ which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the

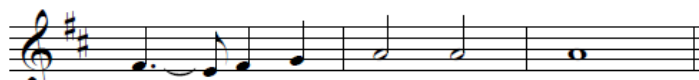
Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.⁶ This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.⁸ Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,¹¹ according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

RESPONSE.....Joy Has Dawned

GOSPEL.....Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born.⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:⁶ ""But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.""⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise — be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY.....As with Gladness Men of Old (#83)

SERMON.....Matthew 2:1-12

THEME: “A Savior for All People”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

The members of Cross of Glory are happy to support its ministry with their financial gifts. If you are visiting us today, do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: **Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.**

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: **Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

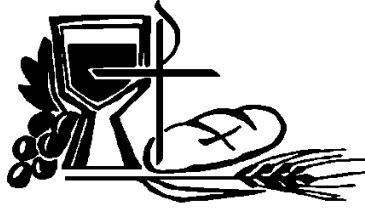
C: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**



THE SACRAMENT



M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

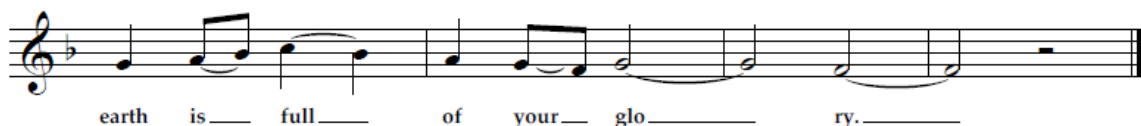
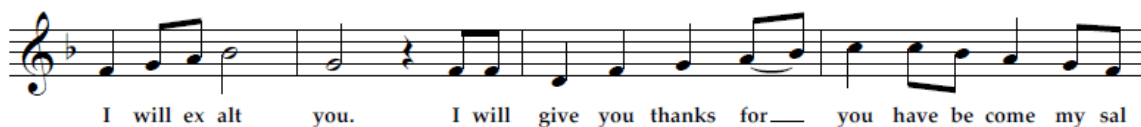
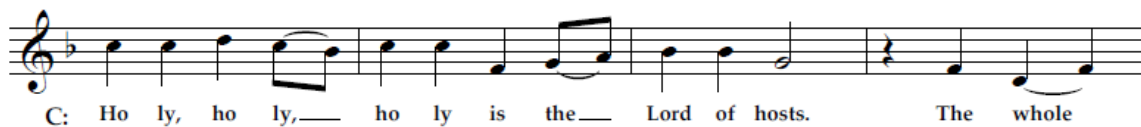
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*SANCTUS*)

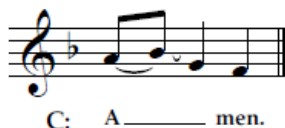


WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*AGNUS DEI*)

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a way the sin of the world; have mer cy on___

us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a way the sin of the world; have

mer cy on___ us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a way the

sin of the world; grant us your peace. A_____ men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: How Lovely Shines the Morning Star (CW # 79)

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

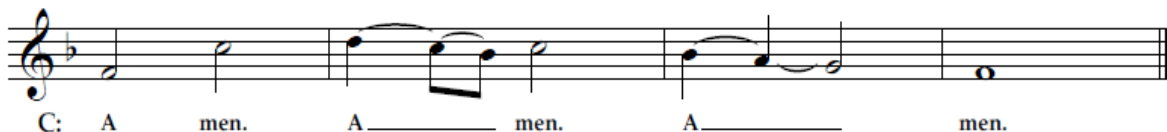
C: A_____ men.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN.....Brightest and Best (#92)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEASURE OF LOVE

Last Sunday's Attendance : Worship: 37; Communion: 23.

Offerings to the Lord: General Fund: \$6678.

THANK YOU

Dear Members of Cross of Glory-

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift I received. It is certainly appreciated. Thank you also for your prayers on behalf of myself and my family. May God be with Cross of Glory in this new year, as we work together to carry out the mission he has placed in front of us.

~Pastor Hahm